

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 and 18 are presently pending in the application. Claims 1-3 and 16 are rejected. Claims 1-17 are objected to. Claims 1, 3-7 and 11-16 have been amended. Claim 17 has been cancelled. New Claim 18 has been added for examination. The specification has been amended.

Reconsideration of the objections and rejections set forth in the aforementioned Office Action is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks. The basis for the amendments can be found throughout the Specification, Claims and Drawings as originally filed.

DRAWINGS

The drawings stand objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The Applicants have removed the reference to cam surfaces in the claims. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the objection to the drawings is now moot and withdrawal is requested.

SPECIFICATION

Regarding the Examiner's suggestions regarding arrangement of the specification, the Applicants provide a substitute specification including appropriate section headings.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

The Applicants respectfully submit that the United States Patent and Trademark Office may have inadvertently overlooked an Article 19 amendment that was received by the International Bureau on August 5, 2004 amending claims 14 and 16 and cancelling claim 17. The remaining claims were unchanged by the Article 19 amendment. The Applicants enclose a copy of the amended claims including a stamp

indicating receipt by the PTO on October 31, 2005. Accordingly, the remaining remarks and claim amendments relate to the claims as they stand after the Article 19 amendment. Furthermore, it should be noted that Patent Application Publication No. US 2007/0079672 A1, relating to the present application number 10/554,939, properly reflects the claims as amended under Article 19.

Claims 4-15 and 17 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim cannot depend from any other multiple dependent claim. Claims 1-17 are objected to for minor informalities.

The Applicants have amended the claims to reflect proper dependency. As such, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objections to claims 4-15.

Furthermore, the Applicants have re-written previously identified claim 17, now claim 16, in independent form. As such, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection to claim 17.

The remaining informalities have been addressed. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the claim objections.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite in that it fails to point out what is included or excluded by the claim language.

The omnibus type claim previously identified as claim 16 was addressed and amended under Article 19 and is no longer present in the same form. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the § 112 rejection to claim 16.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)/102(b) as being anticipated by Babij, Jr. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,845,693/WO 00/78509).

The Applicants have amended claim 1 to note that at least one jaw is arranged to restrict entry of a screw into the holding portion when in a first position and allow entry of a screw into the holding portion when in a second position, in addition to the other elements recited within presently amended claim 1. The Applicants respectfully submit that Babij, Jr. does not disclose each and every element of a screw feeder as defined by amended claim 1. On the contrary, legs 20 or 12A are not pivotable about a longitudinal axis between first and second positions where the at least one jaw is arranged to restrict entry of a screw into the holding portion when in the first position and allow entry of a screw into the holding portion when in a second position. The legs defined by 20 or 12A are spaced apart from the area where screws are transferred from the magazine to the holding portion. As such, Babij, Jr. does not disclose a screw feeder as defined by amended claim 1. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the § 102 rejections to claims 1-3.

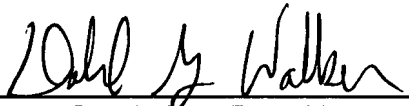
CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the

Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1222.

Respectfully submitted,

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